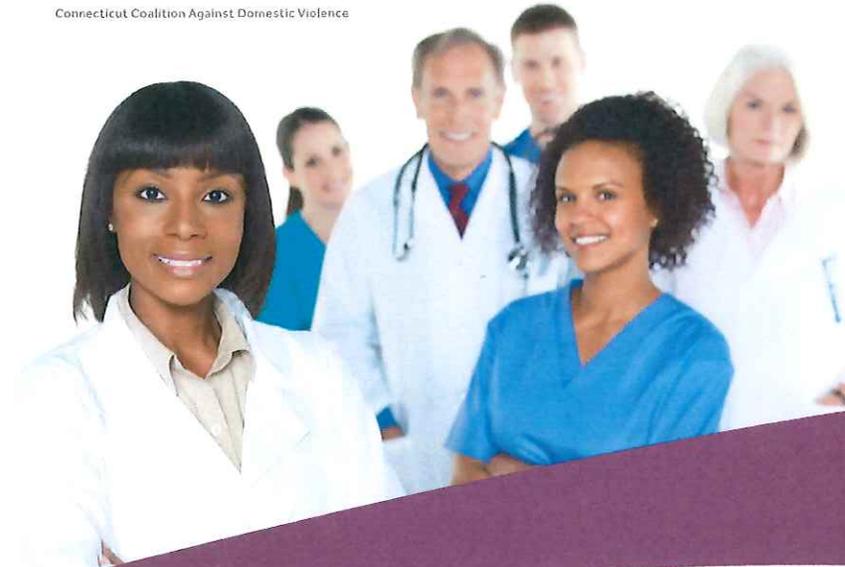


# cca | DV HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH PROJECT

Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence



## TRAINING AVAILABLE!

### Intimate Partner Violence: Screening & Intervention for Health Professionals

Intimate Partner Violence is a preventable public health issue that affects millions of Americans according to the Center for Disease Control. Healthcare professionals can and should play a critical role in screening for and responding to this health issue. Most Americans trust their health provider and they come to see you because they want help. Healthcare settings are safe and nurturing - the perfect place to explore options and resources with victims.

#### TRAINING INCLUDES:

- Prevalence and dynamics of intimate partner violence
- Health professionals' role in screening and intervention
- Screening tools, best practices and resources that will strengthen interventions
- Referral sources and other resources to support patient care

Trainings are available for 1 to 3 hours and  
**EACH HOUR QUALIFIES FOR  
ONE CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT.**

Trainings and consultation for policy guidance are **FREE OF COST.**

*This project is funded by the CT Department of Social Services and is a partnership between CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Injury Prevention Center at CT Children's Medical Center/Hartford Hospital. Training is provided at no cost.*

Please contact **Natacha Kereleja, LCSW**, Clinical Director of the Health Professional Outreach Project at CCADV to schedule your free training!

#### YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Addressing intimate partner violence in healthcare settings is important!

- You provide a safe and nurturing environment.
- You have existing relationships with patients and provide information that they can trust.
- You can help connect your patient's current health issue to the abusive relationship she or he may be experiencing.

#### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS RECOMMEND SCREENING!

- American Medical Association
- American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Nursing Association
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Institute of Medicine
- Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and Health Care Organizations
- US Preventative Services Task Force

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# INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN CONNECTICUT

## A PERVERSIVE PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

### WHAT IS INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE?

Intimate partner violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can take many forms:

**PHYSICAL** - such as hitting, slapping, punching and shoving

**VERBAL, EMOTIONAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL** - such as public or private name calling or put-downs, exhibiting extreme jealousy, isolating the victim from seeing family or friends

**SEXUAL** - such as non-consensual sexual acts or violence, including between spouses

**FINANCIAL** - such as withholding money or giving "an allowance," forbidding the victim to work or sabotaging employment, running up debt in the victim's name

**STALKING** - such as following the victim or tracking the victim through GPS, sending unwanted messages or gifts

Victims are left feeling scared, confused, dependent and insecure about their ability to survive on their own, financially or otherwise. The children of an abused parent must contend with these same fears and realities.

### EFFECTS ON PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH

Being in a relationship with someone who is controlling and intimidating takes a toll physically and mentally on a person. The pressure of trying to make things work can become overwhelming and being under that level of stress on a regular basis is linked to a number of chronic and acute health problems.

2003 national cost estimates from the CDC place the direct costs of medical and mental health care for victims of intimate partner violence at **\$8.3 BILLION ANNUALLY.**

### BENEFITS OF SCREENING

Screening increases provider and patient comfort around the topic of intimate partner violence. Regardless of the screening outcome, consistent screening creates an environment where abuse can be disclosed and discussed. When disclosures occur, providers will know the resources available to clients. As victims' needs are addressed, patient safety and satisfaction can be positively impacted.

## WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is the state's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those organizations that serve them. We are a membership organization of the state's 18 domestic violence organizations that provide critical support to keep victims safe.

Our 18 member organizations serve approximately **50,000 VICTIMS PER YEAR**. They provide the following confidential services free of charge:

- 24 hour toll-free crisis lines with access to certified counselors
- Safety planning
- Counseling
- Support groups
- Information & referrals
- Emergency shelter
- Court advocacy
- Community education

Member organizations are located strategically throughout the state. The statewide domestic violence hotlines will route a caller to the most local service provider. Medical professionals are also welcome to call the hotline to get advice or additional information for patients.

STATEWIDE, TOLL FREE HOTLINES

888.774.2900 (ENGLISH) | 844.831.9200 (ESPAÑOL)

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